

Protecting Women's Preventive Healthcare in Texas



*Access to preventive healthcare, including
contraception, for ALL Texas women*

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Protecting Women's Healthcare *Now More than Ever:* Maternal Mortality



The Texas maternal mortality rate doubled between 2011 and 2012¹

- **Planned and spaced pregnancies = better maternal & child health outcomes**
- **Family planning provides a critical entry point**
 - **Prevent, detect, manage chronic conditions**
 - **Access to postpartum/inter-conception care**
 - **Continuity of care**

1. MacDorman et al., "Recent Increases in the U.S. Maternal Mortality Rate: Disentangling Trends from Measurement Issues." *Obstetrics & Gynecology*. 128(3). September 2016.

2. Texas Department of State Health Services. "Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force and Department of State Health Services Joint Biennial Report." July 2016.



Protecting Women's Healthcare *Now More than Ever:* Zika

“Because of the potential for Zika virus to affect pregnant women and their fetuses, strategies to prevent unintended pregnancy are a critical part of current efforts to prevent Zika-related health effects.”

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “CDC Issues Updated Zika Recommendations: Timing of Pregnancy after Zika Exposure, Prevention of Sexual Transmission, Considerations for Reducing Unintended Pregnancy in Areas with Zika Transmission,” March 2016.

Protecting Women's Healthcare *Now More than Ever:* Federal Uncertainties



- Obamacare Repeal
- Exclude contraception from covered preventive care
- Medicaid block grants/caps
- Title X changes

Planned Pregnancies/Access to Contraception

- Better birth spacing
- Fewer preterm births
- Few low birth weight births
- Healthier babies
- Healthier mothers
- Stronger families
- Fiscal savings

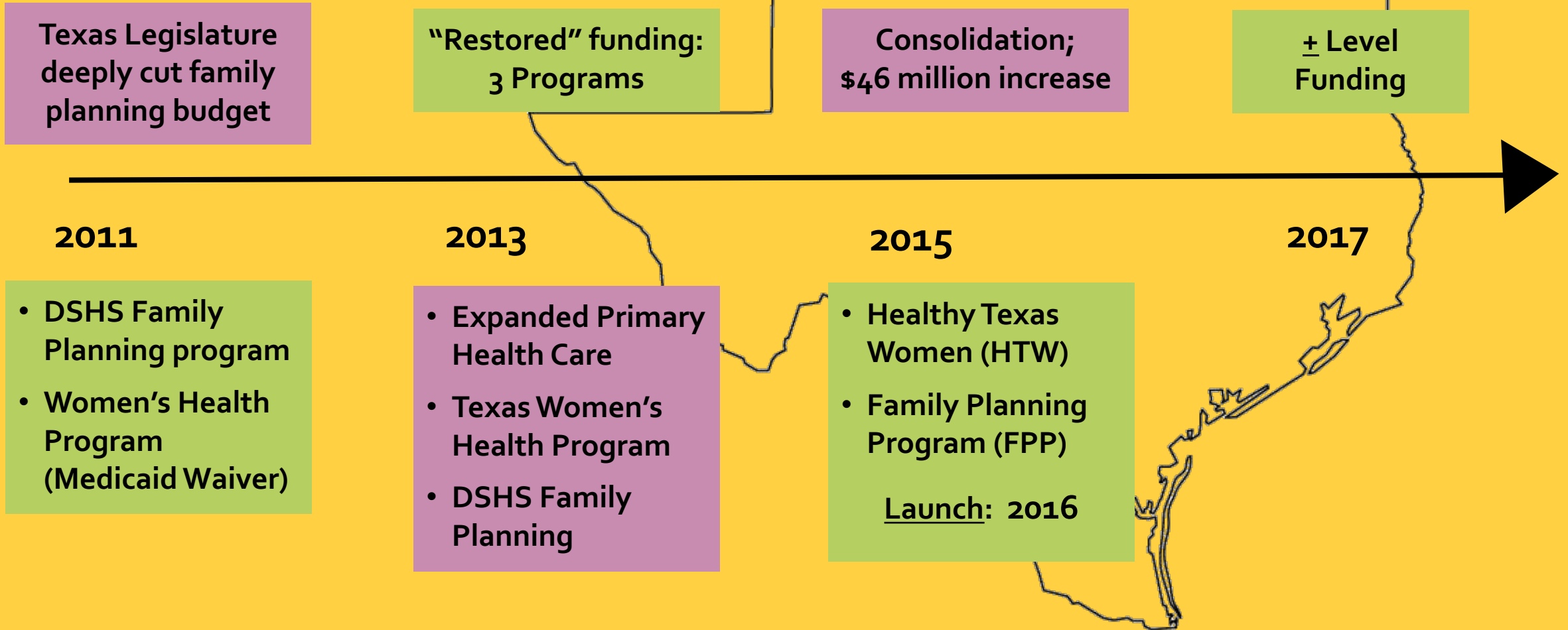


Women's Preventive Healthcare Services

- Well-woman exams
- Screenings
- Contraceptive counseling, methods, and supplies
- Additional services

Not Abortion

Some History



Healthy Texas Women

Client Eligibility:

- Women ages 15-44 (Ages 15-17 with parental consent)
- 200% Federal Poverty Level
- Citizen/Eligible Immigrant
- Not pregnant
- 5,342 providers

Eligibility Determinations:

- Client eligibility is determined by HHSC
- Clients may apply through a paper application or online
- Services delivered on a fee-for-service basis

Covered Services:

- Pelvic examinations
- Contraceptive Services
- Pap tests
- Screening for hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol
- Sexually transmitted infection services
- Sterilizations
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Screenings and Diagnostic Services
- Immunizations
- Cervical Dysplasia treatment
- Other preventative services

Auto-Enrollment after a Medicaid Delivery

Family Planning Program

Client Eligibility:

- Women and Men
- Age 64 or younger
- 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)
- Texas residents
- Must not be eligible for any similar program, including the HTW Fee-For-Service program
- Eligibility is determined

Eligibility Determinations:

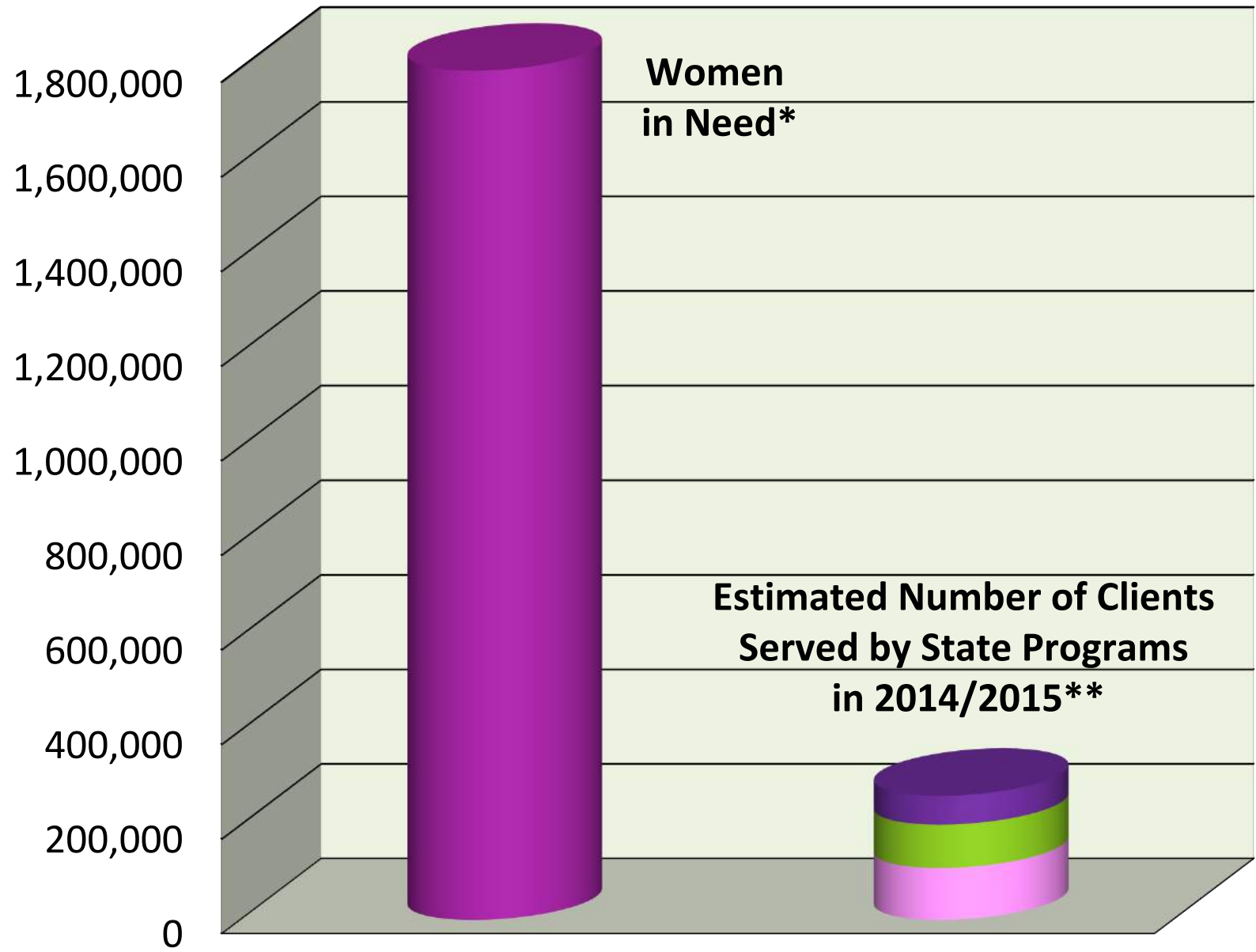
- At the point of service by family planning contractors

Covered Services:

- Pelvic exam
- Contraceptive Services
- Pap tests
- Screening for hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol
- Sexually transmitted infection services
- Sterilizations
- Breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services
- Immunizations
- Prenatal Services

Steady increase in providers

Still Far to Go: Need vs. Supply, 2014

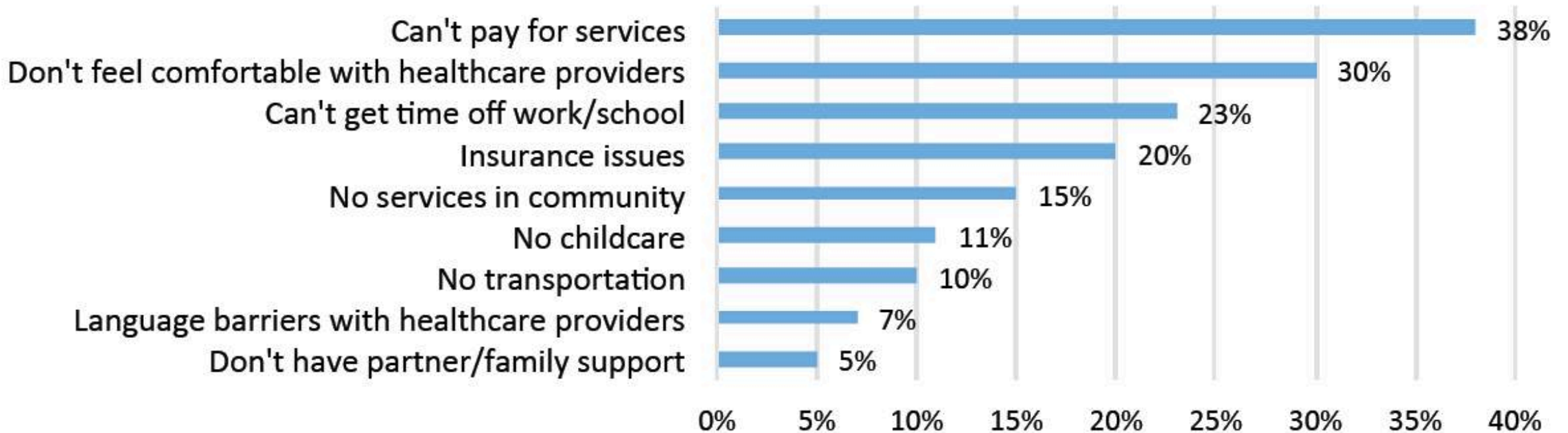


- Number of women in need
- Family Planning
- Expanded Primary Health Care
- Texas Women's Health Program

*Frost JJ, et al. "Contraceptive Needs and Services, 2014 Update," New York: Guttmacher Institute, 2016.
**French, Lesley, "Presentation to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee: Healthy Texas Women and Family Planning Programs," September 13, 2016.

Barriers to Reproductive Health Care in Texas

Roughly 1.8 million Texas women are in need of publicly funded preventive health services.*



Source: Texas Population Research Project, Barriers to Family Planning Access in Texas: Evidence from a Statewide Representative Survey, May 2015

*Frost et al., "Contraceptive Needs and Services, 2014 Update," New York: Guttmacher Institute, 2016.

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

1.

Ensure funding for women's preventive healthcare, including contraception, can fully meet the growing need among low-income uninsured women

- Adequate funding is essential for stability of safety net
- Funding HHSC Family Planning Exceptional Item will reach more women

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

2. Increase Provider Capacity

- Annual Reporting Budget Rider
 - Data on providers, clients, services, LARCs
 - Include data from previous years
- Continue the Women's Health Advisory Committee
 - HB 279 (Howard)/SB 790 (Miles)

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

3. Ensure women have access to Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives: LARC

- HHSC Budget Rider
- Increase LARC access; provider education/training
- Regularly adjust payments to ensure adequate reimbursement
- Ensure adequate Quality Family Planning provider training

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

4.

Increase continuity of care for women by eliminating barriers to preventive healthcare access

- Ensure eligible clients can enroll in Healthy Texas Women
- Ensure women receive effective referral services
- Enable 12-month supply of birth control - HB 1161 (S. Davis)/HB 940 (Howard)
- Automatically enroll 19-year-olds in CHIP into Healthy Texas Women – SB 809 (Miles)

Policy Priorities for the 85th Legislature

5.

Maximize the ability of the women's healthcare safety net to reach more women and save Texas taxpayer dollars

- Draw down federal dollars when that will increase access to care
- Maximize access to preventive care and contraception